

To whom it may concern,

A democracy, especially a representative democracy relies not so heavily on our participation, but on us having knowledge and insight and the ability to participate. The vote on June 2nd regarding Media Ownership is no doubt a very important issue when you look at how it will affect the world we as Americans sees.

Media Ownership, and the rules surrounding it, is not about dollars and cents but about the free press. It is about being able to experience a wide variety of views when we pick up our morning paper, or turn on the evening news. Already the scope of coverage available to us is uniform, the diversity involved in hiring women, and minorities in media jobs does nothing to increase diversity when the local newspaper is copy and pasted from the wire services, nor when the owners of these media outlets own all the media outlets in town.

In my small town in New Mexico we have three local TV stations, a handful of radio stations, and one newspaper, to increase the ability of these huge corporations to own a monopoly on the media in small towns like mine, is nothing than short of saying he with the fattest wallets will now get to control one of the largest agents of socialization in America, the media. That no longer sees democratic. Further once these huge conglomerates come into a small town the chance for small time competition to succeed is unlikely. Freedom of the press is a constitutional right, and it is my deepest belief that anything guaranteed in the United States Constitution should be protected, and supported at all costs by the United States Government, for the people, for the democracy.

To say as Chairman Powell said that the current rules are unenforceable is not a reason to hand over the American Public to AOL Time Warner, Disney, or Viacom. It is a call to look at the problem, and find ways to enforce them. I cannot stress enough how much I and others fear loosening regulations on already to large media giants, and I would ask that you please keep current regulations in place that will protect free press and ensure diversity in the media.

Sincerely
Christina D. Morton